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Bangalore Mirror

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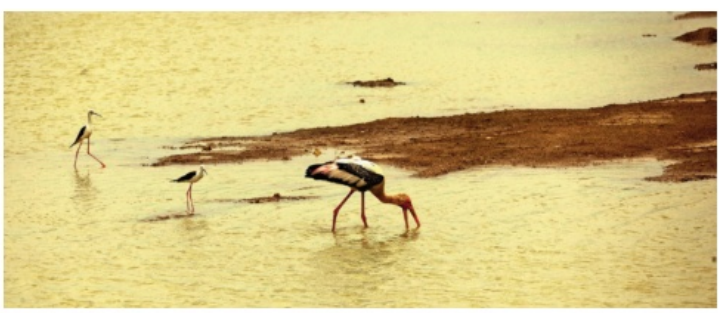
State generates 3,357 million litre a day wastewater of which 2,054 MLD is treated and from this just 43% is being used; maximum usage is for lake revival

TREATED WATER IS GOING TO WASTE

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A report on the usage of treated wastewater in Karnataka shows that there is a considerable gap in total sewage being treated and the portion of this treated water being used in the state.



While 3,357 MLD of wastewater is being generated and 2,054 MLD is being treated, only 43% of the treated wastewater is being used. The study by the Centre for Science and Environment further highlights that the treated wastewater from 50 sewage treatment plants (STP) of the state is being used for purposes such as industrial use, lake recharge, irrigation, and horticulture. The major

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

CITY / PAGE 3

Eagle eye

All establishments with monthly footfall of 500 or more people told to get more CCTV cameras installed so that no corner is unwatched

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THINGS TO DO

01 Art camp

Jain University 2024 National Art Exhibition and Camp is a 3-day workshop, where more than 50 artists from all over India exclusively from North eastern states will be coming under one roof to create 100 unique forms of art. **Where: Shantamani Kala Kendra, JAIN (Deemed-to-be University); When: December 22 to 24, 10 am to 7 pm**

02 Magic Christmas

Witness the enchanting Magic of Christmas with the 14-year-old prodigy Jayant Patwari, a National Award winner and celebrated magician. **Where: Play Arena; When: December 21, 7.30 pm**

03 CA conference

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India Bengaluru (SIRC) is organising "Navayuga" a two-day mega conference for CA students. The conference is themed "The New Era of Chartered Accountants." **Where: Jnana Jyothi Auditorium; When: December 20 and 21**

04 Comedy Night @ Brigade

Just Blr Comedy Club brings you its daily open mic where you`ll find some of the most hilarious and seasoned comedians of the city. **Where: Just Blr; When: December 20, 7 pm**

05 Circus entertainment

A world of enchantment, festive wonder, jaw-dropping acts, and non-stop entertainment for the entire family at Olympian circus. **Where: Olympian Circus, JP Nagar; When: December 16 to January 5, 4 pm and 7 pm**

NGT notice to BBMP, KSPCB on Arkavathi River toxicity

This is after water quality analysis conducted on samples collected from TG Halli reservoir, Dodda Mudavadi Bridge revealed alarming levels of heavy metals

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Byramangala lake, Bengaluru rural, which comes along the path in the Arkavathi River flow (File Photo)

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued notices to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) after registering a suo motu case regarding high levels of heavy metals and toxic substances in the Arkavathi River stretch near Thippagondanahalli (TG Halli) reservoir. Taking cognisance of a news article, NGT stated that the river continues to suffer from severe domestic and industrial pollution despite the Karnataka High Court's direction to protect the water body.

This is after a water quality analysis conducted by Paani Earth, a city-based non-governmental organisation on samples collected from multiple points of TG Halli reservoir and Dodda Mudavadi Bridge, located 10 kilometres upstream of the Arkavathi-Vrishabhavathi confluence. The analysis's results showed alarming levels of heavy metals and toxic substances, including mercury, the banned pesticide DDT, cancer-causing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), and fluoride.

"The (news) article reports that the samples were collected from three sites: upstream and downstream of the Thippagondanahalli (TG Halli) reservoir and the Dodda Mudavadi bridge, located 10 km upstream of the Arkavathy-Vrishabhavathi confluence. DDT concentrations were found to be 75 times above the European Union's water quality standards. Hexavalent Chromium, a carcinogenic compound, exceeded safety limits by 100 times according to Canada Water Quality guidelines. Mercury levels ranged from 16 to 26 times above Canadian safety standards at all three sampling sites. PAH was detected in all three samples. It raises substantial issues relating to compliance with the environmental norms," noted the principal bench of the Green Court.

> **"DDT concentrations in Arkavathi River were found to be 75 times above the European Union's water quality standards**
> – Green court

The case has been filed under provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The tribunal has also sent notices to the Central Pollution Control Board, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change—Regional Office, Bangalore, and to the District Magistrate of Bangalore. Notably, in September this year, the Arkavathi stretch near TG Halli reservoir experienced foaming, which drew severe criticism from experts as the reservoir draws water from the Arkavathi and Cauvery rivers and is already supplying blended water in the ratio of 1:20 to parts of south and west Bengaluru. Experts then raised alarm and highlighted that the primary cause of river frothing is the discharge of untreated industrial effluent. While the river is receiving industrial effluent from the Peenya Industrial area, the TG Halli is fitted with a Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) to treat wastewater by removing only organic pollutants and pollutants and a Water Treatment Plant for disinfection and cleaning.

Since the matter is related to the Southern Zonal Bench, the case has been transferred to Chennai for further action.

This trainer creates Taekwon-Do champs

Around five students trained under coach Yeshwanth BR, president of the Combat Warrior Taekwon-Do Association of Karnataka, won the All India Taekwon-Do National Championship held at Indira Gandhi Sports Complex Stadium, Raj Ghat, New Delhi, on December 14 and 15.

The event, organised by V Maruthi Prasad, president of the All India Taekwon-Do Association (ITF), brought together athletes from across the country competing in various categories. Yeshwanth played a key role in preparing his students for the championship. The students, from Athena Public School, Vidyaranyapura, performed well and represented Karnataka effectively. Their achievements highlight the role of grassroots training and the influence of a coach in developing skills in Taekwon-Do.

The Combat Warrior Taekwon-Do Association of Karnataka is promoting the sport under Yeshwanth's leadership. His coaching methods focus on building both mental and physical strength, making him a notable trainer in the state. Yeshwanth said, "I am satisfied with his students' performance, attributing their success to their effort and the foundation established during training." He also stressed the importance of national platforms in providing exposure and competition opportunities for athletes. Taekwon-Do is growing in popularity across India,

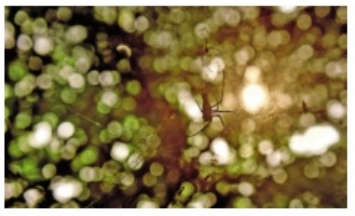
— BMB

Bengaluru students win global wildlife quiz championship

Two students from Bengaluru's National Public School (NPS), Koramangala, won the International Finals of the Wild Wisdom Global Challenge (WWGC) 2024, hosted by the World Wildlife Fund-India. Competing against bright young minds from across the world, India emerged as the global champion in the 17th edition of this quiz focused on wildlife conservation. The winning duo, Arham Nilesh Gada (Class 9) and Atharva Shastry (Class 7), outshone participants from eight countries, including Bhutan, Colombia, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Kenya, Portugal, and Spain. This year's theme, "The Ultimate Scaly Survivalists," took students deep into the fascinating world of reptiles, highlighting their unique survival strategies, behaviors, and diversity.

Reminiscing about his experience, Arham said, "I had a great time preparing for the international finale, and I got to learn a lot about reptiles, especially crocodiles and caimans."

Atharva added, "Since childhood, I've been fascinated by nature. Frequent treks to places like Big Basin State Park and San Antonio County Park were a highlight of my early years, where I observed diverse wildlife in their natural habitats. This year's quiz topic, reptiles, was captivating."



The Wild Wisdom Global Challenge 2024 shattered records, with over 5.5 lakh students from grades VI to IX participating across four continents—Africa, America, Asia-Pacific, and Europe. Students competed in English, Spanish, and Mandarin through digital platforms, webinars, and workshops.

Ravi Singh, secretary general and CEO of WWF-India, said, "This challenge is not just about winning; it's about fostering a lifelong commitment to conservation. I urge all participants to seize opportunities like this to learn and act for wildlife and biodiversity."**— Iffath Fathima**

‘Third eye’ for Bengaluru: CCTV rule for busy establishments

Police mandate CCTV installation in high-footfall establishments; cameras will be linked to police network for real-time monitoring and crime prevention

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

In a significant step to enhance public safety and improve response times, the Bengaluru police are expanding electronic surveillance under the Karnataka Public Safety (Measures) Enforcement Act. The police have initiated a large-scale mapping of areas to identify gaps in CCTV coverage. Notices have been issued to commercial establishments to install surveillance cameras, with as many as 10,000 notices served so far.

The initiative mandates that establishments with a monthly footfall of 500 or more people install CCTV cameras. The responsibility for installation and maintenance lies with the establishment owners. The cameras must meet specified technical standards, including Full HD resolution, night vision capability, and a 30-day storage capacity. Importantly, these cameras will be linked to the police network, serving as a “third eye” for law enforcement to monitor and take preventive action in real time.

The cameras must cover 50 metres andstore footage for 30 days

Establishments should fall under various conditions

Under the Karnataka Public Safety Act, commercial establishments that meet specific criteria have been mandated to install CCTV cameras both inside and outside their premises. These cameras must cover a minimum range of 50 metres on the road and have a storage capacity of 30 days. The directive aims to enhance safety for both the public and the establishments, aiding in crime reduction and providing crucial support to law enforcement. However, establishments that do not meet the stipulated conditions are not obligated to comply with this requirement.

Additionally, malls and establishments with high footfalls have been advised to bolster their security by installing advanced systems such as Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs) and Hand-Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs) to mitigate threats such as bomb threats.

Senior police officials stated that the initiative is not only aimed at aiding establishments in deterring and detecting crimes but also at creating a robust law and order framework “This initiative is crucial for the safety of the city. CCTV cameras and enhanced security measures not only help deter criminal activities but also assist the police and public in ensuring a safer environment for everyone,” said a senior police official.

Safe city

The decision to increase electronic surveillance comes after authorities noticed gaps in the coverage of existing devices in many parts of the city. To fix these issues, notices have been issued to ensure better monitoring and bring more areas under surveillance.

“This will help both the public and the police to keep the city safe,” said a senior police official. “By closing these gaps, we aim to reduce crime and prevent it before it happens. This is a step towards making the city more secure for everyone,” the official added.

Mobile thief arrested, phones seized

A mobile thief’s streak came to an abrupt end when HAL Police cracked the case, recovering 12 stolen phones worth 4 lakh, and unravelling a trail of targeted thefts from construction sites and PG accommodations.

The incident came to light after a complaint was filed on December 14 by a resident of Friends Layout, Chinnappa Village. The complainant, overseeing construction work, reported that an unknown person had stolen a worker’s phone while they were asleep at the construction site. A case was registered at the HAL Police Station, and investigations began.

Following leads from informants, the police apprehended the suspect near Marathahalli Bridge on December 15. During the search, 12 stolen mobile phones, including the one reported in the complaint, were recovered.

The accused confessed to targeting under-construction buildings and PG accommodations within the HAL Police Station limits. The recovered phones are valued at 4 lakh, and two previously reported mobile theft cases have been solved through this arrest. However, the ownership of the remaining 10 phones is yet to be determined. Police are continuing their investigation to identify the owners. On December 16 the accused was remanded to judicial custody.

Injury on Infantry Road throws spotlight on footpath hazards

Senior woman's fall highlights poor state of city footpaths, with locals urging BBMP to address safety hazards and improve pedestrian infrastructure

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Above: A portion of the footpath on Infantry Road that is set to cave; Below: Supriya standing on the footpath where she fell on Friday

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has invested significant time and resources in upgrading the city's footpaths. However, their condition remains poor, with many being unfriendly to pedestrians. On Friday, a senior citizen suffered a fall on the Infantry Road footpath and was rushed to a private hospital with head injuries.

"I went shopping at the nearby department store. I fell as I was coming down the stairs. The stairs have no bars which can be helpful for senior citizens like me. The BBMP authorities must ensure basic safety measures at all shops and business establishments while issuing the trade licence," said Supriya, a resident of 4B Fernville Apartments.

Highlighting the lack of consideration for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities navigating the poorly maintained pavements, Supriya urged BBMP authorities to address the issues."There is no thought of the height or elevation of the pavement. I fell on the pavement outside my bank. Luckily everyone knows me. They took me in an auto immediately to the hospital. I want the BBMP authorities to ensure residential apartment complexes, shops and business establishments have basic amenities for senior citizens," she said.

When contacted, the department store owner, Ilyas, stated that he would inform the property owner about the need to install bars on the stairs at the store's entrance. "I know Supriya. I took her to the hospital for treatment. She fell on the footpath and not on the stairs of our store," said Ilyas.

> **"BBMP authorities must ensure basic safety measures at all shops and business establishments while issuing the trade license** – Supriya, resident

The BBMP has invested heavily in developing footpaths on Infantry Road, yet they remain unfriendly to pedestrians. Walking on these footpaths requires caution, as a section is on the verge of sinking. A utility duct, missing its metal cover, has been temporarily covered with a plywood sheet. Additionally, an electric transformer takes up a significant portion of the footpath space.

Demanding the BBMP authorities to make the footpaths pedestrian-friendly, Alexander James, a social activist, said the BBMP authorities have to take measures to repair the footpaths to facilitate senior citizens without any hassles. "Most of the footpaths in the city are in bad condition thus compelling pedestrians, especially senior citizens, to walk on the road thus making them vulnerable to road accidents," said Alexander James.

Criticising the BBMP authorities for not maintaining the footpaths and drains on Infantry Road, Ansar of Standard Furniture said it has become tough for him to cope with the bad smell emanating from a culvert. "The footpath in front of my shop is uneven. Some of the pedestrians fell while walking on it," he said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Krishnappa said that he would look into the matter. "I will inform the major roads department about the condition of the footpaths," the Assistant Executive Engineer said.

Bangalore University gets ₹100 cr for campus development

Under the PM-USHA initiative, Bangalore University (BU) has been granted Rs 100 crore to address its infrastructure needs. The university has outlined a comprehensive plan to utilise the funds, which includes the construction of a new academic block, the repair of old buildings, the purchase of research equipment, and the rebuilding of the health centre, among other projects. This investment is expected to help the university overcome its infrastructure deficiencies and enhance its facilities.

A senior official said, "BU's Jnanabharathi campus is set to undergo significant development with the construction of a new academic block spanning 1.25 lakh square feet. Planned under the PM-USHA, the university aims to complete the Rs 6 crore project within three years. This modern facility will accommodate more than 20 classrooms, laboratories, and other essential amenities, addressing current shortages. Emphasising research as a key priority, BU plans to allocate Rs 18-20 crore for state-of-the-art research equipment. However, procurement will commence after the completion of the academic block, as the current laboratory space is insufficient. Once operational, these investments will bolster the university's capability to offer enhanced learning experiences and research opportunities to its students."

In addition to infrastructure development, BU will allocate funds for various academic activities. A budget of Rs 2 crore has been earmarked for Staff Development Programs (FDP), aimed at enhancing faculty capabilities. Furthermore, Rs 50,000 has been sanctioned for special lectures across all 47 departments, promoting academic enrichment. Dr SM Jayakar, Vice Chancellor of BU said, "The Central Government has allocated Rs 100 crore under the PM-USHA for the development of BU. Hence, we are committed to efficiently utilising these funds and have formulated a detailed action plan for this purpose. This initiative aims to address the university's infrastructure deficiencies. To take it forward, Bangalore University has decided to demolish and rebuild the dilapidated Primary Health Center located on the Jnanabharathi campus. Additionally, urgent maintenance issues such as leaking roofs in student hostels and buildings across 47 departments, as well as inadequate toilet facilities, require attention. To tackle these significant challenges, an allocation of Rs 8-10 crore has been earmarked for building repairs and toilet construction." — **Sridhar Vivan**

BU plans to address infrastructure issues like leaking roofs and inadequate toilets across student hostels

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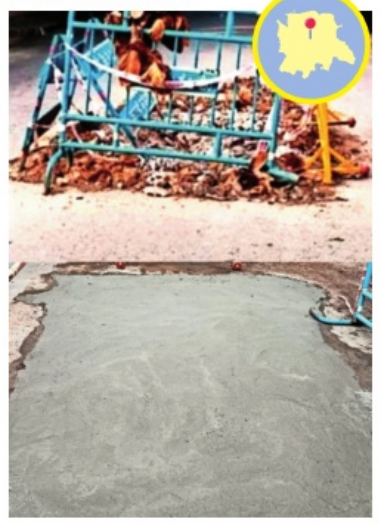

After the report in the columns on Thursday, BWSSB repaired the road in Malleswaram.

Footpath woes
Lavelle Road

Near the 3rd Cross on Lavelle Road, the footpath poses a serious risk to pedestrians and motorists.

Smoking hazard
RV Road

A cigarette shop near RV Road Metro Station exposes passersby to passive smoking. Authorities should address this.

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- Carnival Dancers
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Enjoy up to 50% off during the Asli Happyness Wala Sale at Nexus Koramangala. Shop for clothes, accessories, electronics, and more, and take-home assured prizes with every purchase. Don't miss this rewarding shopping experience.

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Discover unique, handcrafted gifts at Nexus Koramangala's Christmas Bazaar. From jewelry and pottery to custom art and holiday décor, support local artisans while finding one-of-a-kind treasures for your loved ones this festive season!

MAKE LASTING MEMORIES AT NEXUS KORAMANGALA

Nexus Koramangala offers more than shopping – it's a place for unforgettable moments. Enjoy the 25ft Santa, exciting events, great shopping, and delicious food, making every visit this holiday season, truly special.

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This holiday season, create magical memories at Nexus Koramangala. Discover great gifts, savour delicious food, and enjoy quality time with loved ones. Celebrate togetherness and make this Christmas, unforgettable!

HC makes police custody period clear

For offences punishable to up to 10 years, custody of 15 days must be obtained within 40 days, rules court

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Karnataka High Court has interpreted Section 187 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), ruling that for offences punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment, police custody of 15 days must be obtained within the initial forty-day period.

The court elaborated that Section 187 BNSS refers to offences punishable "for ten years or more," establishing that the minimum punishment threshold is 10 years, not up to 10 years. For cases with punishment terms between 1 and 10 years, Section 187(3) BNSS cannot be invoked for police custody, as investigations must conclude within 60 days.

Section 187(3) permits magistrates to authorise detention beyond 15 days with adequate grounds. The total detention period cannot exceed 90 days for offences carrying death penalty, life imprisonment, or imprisonment of 10 years or more, and 60 days for other offences.

The accused becomes eligible for bail upon completion of the 90-day or 60-day period, provided they furnish bail. In the December 13 order, Justice M Nagaprasanna stated, "Where if the offence is punishable where term can be extended up to ten years, it could vary from one to ten. The police custody in such cases would be available for 15 days within the first 40 days of investigation. The 15 days could vary from day one to day forty, but the total would be 15 days. If the offence is punishable with ten years or more, with the minimum sentence being ten years, the police custody would range from day one to day sixty, 15 days in total."

The court noted that the difference in terminology between Section 167(2)'s "not less than 10 years" and Section 187(3)'s "10 years or more" effectively means the same, indicating a minimum ten-year sentence threshold.

The court emphasised that 90-day investigations apply only to cases with minimum 10-year sentences.

The court confirmed that 60-day

investigation periods apply to punishments up to 10 years, while 90 days are allowed for death penalties, life imprisonment, or sentences of 10 years and above. This ruling emerged whilst dismissing a state government petition challenging a December 4 order by the Judicial Magistrate First Class (III Court) Mangalore, which had denied police custody for accused persons charged under various BNS sections. The magistrate's decision was based on the lapse of the 40-day period within which police custody was permissible, as the investigation period was 60 days. The bench noted that the case's offences carried a maximum of 10-year sentences, thus limiting police custody to the first 40 days.

Bhavani Revanna allowed to enter hometown for 15 days

The Karnataka High Court has modified a condition in Bhavani Revanna's anticipatory bail order on Thursday, allowing her to visit Mysuru and Hassan districts for a fortnight.

Previously, in a June 7 order granting interim anticipatory bail in a kidnapping case, the court had restricted her from visiting Hassan and KR Nagara of Mysuru district. This restriction was established after Special Public Prosecutor Professor Ravivarma Kumar contended that she was the mastermind of the crime and requested for her to be barred from entering Hassan and KR Nagara districts. While seeking complete removal of the restriction, Bhavani noted that other accused persons faced no such limitations. The Court scheduled a hearing for January 9, 2025, but granted a 15-day allowance starting the following day to enter Mysore and Hassan districts. The court warned that any violation of bail conditions would face serious consequences.

According to prosecutors, the complainant stated that his mother, who had worked for Bhavani for six years, was abducted by Satish Babanna following Revanna's instructions to safeguard her son Prajwal. The complainant discovered a viral video allegedly showing his mother's sexual assault through a friend, and when he asked Babanna to release his mother, the request was refused. The case was registered at KR Nagara Police Station on May 2.

Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana from today

The sugarcane city of Mandya is all set to host the three-day 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahitya Sammelana from Friday. The city has been adorned with Kannada flags and banners, creating a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for literary enthusiasts. The Sammelana president, Dr GR Channabasappa arrived in Mandya on Thursday evening, and preparations for the main stage are complete. The event will kick off on Friday morning with a flag hoisting ceremony at 6.00 am, followed by the president's grand procession at 7.00 am. The procession will feature over 50 cultural troupes performing folk art forms such as Tiger Dance, Veeragase by women, Goravara Kunita, Kamsale, Karaga, Suggi Kunita, and Kolata.

The event is being organised across 70-80 acres. A total of 55 exhibition stalls, 350 commercial stalls, and 450 bookstalls have been set up. Dining arrangements include 100 counters, with 40 exclusively for registered delegates, offering a uniform menu for all attendees.

Mandya District-in-Charge Minister and Welcome Committee Chairman, N Cheluvarayaswamy said, "Mandya is fully prepared to host the literary festival. The event spans 70-80 acres, featuring a main stage, two parallel stages, and parking facilities spread over 60 acres.

Additionally, 55 exhibition stalls, 350 commercial stalls, and 450 bookstalls have been set up. For dining arrangements, 100 counters have been prepared, with 40 exclusive counters for registered delegates."

NOTIFICATION INVITING TENDER (NIT)
(Through e-procurement mode only)

Invites tender for the Construction of Commercial Building (Ground Floor and First Floor) (Item-wise) for Kanasawadi VSSSN, at Property No. 302/2, Kanasawadi Village, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. The Bidders are requested to submit the tender in two cover systems, technical bid containing EMD and Details of their Capability to undertake the tender and Commercial (Financial) bid separately.

Date : 02.03.2024

Sl. No.	Description	Details
1	Title of the work	Civil, Electrical, Water supply & Sanitary works Related to proposed construction of Kanasawadi VSSSN, Building at Kanasawadi Village, Madure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.
2	License Category	PWD Class-II & Above
3	Estimate cost put to tender	Rs. 48,26,000.00/- (GST shall be paid to tendered amount separately)
4	EMD amount	Rs. 96,520,.00/-
5	Last date and time for tender queries/clarification	23.12.2024 @ 5.30 PM
6	Last date and time for Submission of Tenders	27.12.2024 @ 5.30 PM
7	Date and Time of Opening of tenders (Technical bid)	30.12.2024 @ 12.30 PM
8	Date & Time of opening of Tenders (Financial Bid)	30.12.2024 @ 03.30 PM
9	Solvency amount	Rs. 14,47,800.00/-

The cost of document and period of completion, as in E-portal tender documents may be downloaded from the E-procurement. Tender of the Government of Karnataka. Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before the due date. The tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal as per the E-Procurement portal guidelines. Other details can be seen in website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Tender document Number.

Sd/- (Chief Executive Officer)
Contact No. : 9945974103

Protest against Shah over statements regarding Ambedkar

Dalit Vidyarthi Parishath (DVP), Bangalore University Research Scholars Association, Thamate Media, Ambedkar Students' Association (ASA)-GKVK Bengaluru and All India Students' Association (AISA) organised a protest against Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks made recently in the Rajya Sabha, against the legacy of Dr BR Ambedkar, who is the architect of the Indian Constitution. Shah stated that it has become a "fashion" to take Ambedkar's name and that if "God's name was chanted that many times, then one would go to heaven for seven lives."

"Such remarks show Shah's intent to delegitimise Ambedkar's legacy and also the struggles of millions who continue to fight against caste oppression in India. By equating the reverence for Ambedkar with mindless ritualism, Shah has exposed the Hindutva agenda's disdain for Ambedkar's vision of a just and equal society, which directly challenges the Brahmanical ideology rooted in the Manusmriti," the organisations said in a statement.

They added that as the Union Home Minister, Shah's statement is unbecoming of a leader who is sworn to uphold the Constitution that Ambedkar painstakingly drafted; his words trivialise the historical and ongoing struggles of Dalits, Adivasis, and other marginalised

Protestors demanded Shah issue an immediate public apology

communities who see Ambedkar as a beacon of hope and resistance and his vision of social justice as a guiding force.

"This is not merely a political gaffe—it is an affront to the Constitution and the values of social justice it enshrines. Shah must issue an unconditional apology to the nation for his offensive remarks. Anything less would all the more signify the already significant complicity of the government in perpetuating caste-based discrimination and its unwillingness to respect the foundational values of our democracy. The RSS's discomfort with the name of Ambedkar comes at a time when there have been repeated calls from the extremist Hindu right-wing to amend or replace the Constitution," they said.

Protestors demanded Shah issue an immediate public apology for his statement and tender his resignation. **-BMB**

Police detain 93 illegal migrants in Bengaluru

Authorities detain 159 illegal Bangladeshi migrants and 24 Pakistanis in Karnataka; efforts to tackle unauthorised migrant entries continue

Sridhar.Vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The Police in Bengaluru City have apprehended approximately 93 illegal Bangla migrants. Home Minister G Parameshwara said that a total of 159 individuals of Pakistani origin and Bangladeshi origin, residing illegally in Karnataka, have been detained. Responding to a starred question from Member DS Arun in the Legislative Council on Thursday, Parameshwara detailed the measures being taken to address the issue of repeated unauthorised entries into the state.

The Home Minister said that in a significant operation targeting unauthorised residents, authorities in Karnataka have detained 24 individuals of Pakistani origin and 159 individuals of Bangladeshi origin across Bengaluru and other parts of the state. "Bengaluru City alone accounted for the highest number of detentions, with 93 Bangla migrants. Among the other districts, overall Bengaluru Urban district saw 24 Pakistanis and 29 Bangladeshis detained. Districts such as Vijayapura, Kodagu, and Dharwad also reported the presence of unauthorised foreign nationals. Chitradurga detained 6 Bangladeshis,

Hassan accounted for 3, Udupi reported 10, and Shivamogga registered 12 Bangladeshi nationals."

During the reply, he said that, in addition to these detentions, authorities uncovered that 115 Bangladeshi nationals were residing in the state using fraudulent documents. Bengaluru once again topped the list with 93 Bangladeshis living on fake credentials. To address the issue, the Bengaluru City Police has ramped up surveillance and implemented special operations to monitor the entry of foreign nationals. The City Special Task Force, along with inputs from police stations and the Central Crime Branch's Organised Crime Wing, is leading efforts to trace and apprehend unauthorised residents. Similar task forces have been constituted across other cities and districts in the state to ensure coordinated operations against foreign nationals residing illegally.

He further stated that to monitor such cases, a dedicated City Special Unit has been established in Bengaluru. This unit gathers information on foreign nationals entering the city through police stations and the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) in Bengaluru. Special operations are then conducted under the supervision of divisional DCPs to trace and apprehend unauthorised residents. Additionally, the Organised Crime Wing of the Central Crime Branch (CCB) is actively involved in these operations. The minister also highlighted that a Special Task Force has been set up in other cities and districts to identify and act against unauthorised foreign nationals, ensuring coordinated efforts across the state to address the issue. "Efforts are ongoing to identify and act against unauthorised residents, ensuring strict enforcement of immigration laws across Karnataka," the Home Minister added.

Film Chamber urges movie subsidy release

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC), the apex body of the Kannada film industry, on Thursday decided to appeal to the government to release the subsidy for Kannada movies that has been pending since 2019. The state government gives subsidies for around 200 Kannada movies every year and each Kannada movie, qualified under the subsidy scheme, will get Rs 10 lakh.

"The state government has taken measures to release the subsidy for Kannada movies. We want the state government to release the subsidy for Kannada movies for the last four years by the end of March. We also want the subsidy committee for the year 2019 to submit its report to the Information and Public Relations Department as early as possible," said DK Ramakrishna, Secretary, KFCC.

The Secretary said the KFCC has decided to have a meeting with all the stakeholders once in three months to discuss the problems of the Kannada film industry. "We are also against organising benefit shows at midnight and in the wee hours. We want to thank the Commissioner of Police and Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru Urban for taking action against those responsible for planning to organise midnight shows of movies," he said, adding that no screening of movies will be held before 6 am. He said the KFCC has also decided to organise mega health camps for the benefit of its members.

Speaking on the occasion, KFCC president M Narasimhalu said the KFCC has determined to safeguard the Kannada film industry. "We want all the exhibitors (movie theatre owners) to keep movie theatres clean," he said.

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Gifts that keep giving

Confused about what to get your loved ones this Christmas? Here are some ideas

This is the jolly season! The best month of the year is here! There's joy and happiness in the air, can you feel it too? How excited are you for the holidays? The best part about the holidays is finally being free enough to spend quality time with your loved ones. Christmas is all about being with your family and family and spreading all the love around! Haven't we missed warm and tight hugs from our close ones? Make your special people feel all the more special this year! In the face of the pandemic, we've realised the importance of our relationships. So, to make them feel loved and appreciated, surprise them with beautiful Christmas gifts! We have an entire list just for you!

Comfy sweaters

First and foremost, comfortable and cozy sweaters! This gift would be perfect for anyone, including parents, siblings or your partner. Considering the weather outside, your close ones would be thankful for this gift! Every year, most people wear sweaters or jackets that have been around for years. If you know someone like this, it would be great to give them a new sweater! Let's face the cold looking gorgeous in our amazing yet comfortable winter wear!
Tip: If it's not too cold where you live, gift them a sweatshirt or a light hoodie instead!

Photo frames

Not just a simple photo frame, but one with a photo that holds a sentimental value for you and them! This would be the perfect gift for them. It shows the value of your connection and bond. Put photos of all your happy memories in the frame, it'll surely be a tear-jerker.
Tip: If not for photos of you both, you can add photos of valuable milestones from their life to make them feel more special.

Journals and planners

Do you have a friend who's an excellent writer? Have they always helped you by offering witty Instagram captions? Have they always guided you in typing an excellent text message to help you impress your crush? Well, it's time to express your deep-felt gratitude! Since you know they love to write, gift them a journal! Even if they already have enough journals, no writer says no to an extra one. Or if you have a friend who loves to plan and make lists, then a planner is the best thing you can give them.
Tip: There are many fun journals in the market. Pick one that best represents them or their goals for the future.

Glassware

Perfect for those who love hosting parties! You already know that, for Christmas and New Year, you're going to be invited to their fancy parties so you might as well get them something fancy! No party is complete without drinks and a sentimental toast where we're asked to raise our glasses. Let your glasses shine!

Art

Art as a Christmas gift would be perfect for someone who's creative. Once you adorn your walls with art, it instantly adds charm and life to the house. Find out the interests, likes and dislikes and favourite colour of your friend or family member before gifting them with artworks. You're sure to bring a huge smile to their faces with this gift.
Tip: Make sure that the artwork goes with the colour scheme of your friend's home.

— Femina

IN BRIEF

Lokayukta inspections reveal shocking lapses in BESCOM, BWSSB functioning

Based on consistent public grievances regarding lapses in services such as electricity and water connections, the Lokayukta conducted raids on Thursday and registered suo motu cases against 83 BESCOM and 63 BWSSB officials. As many as 45 teams comprising judicial and police officers launched simultaneous inspections at Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) and Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) offices.

At BESCOM's Cooperative Nagar office, investigators noted glaring deficiencies in transaction records, including the absence of cash declarations and movement balances. In Yelahanka Satellite Town, a shocking bill payment backlog of ₹1.18 crore was unearthed, raising concerns about financial accountability. Pending applications from the past three months also surfaced, with no explanation for delays.

The BWSSB offices fared no better. At the Yelahanka office, only seven of the 20 employees were present, with the absent assistant executive engineer failing to arrive even after being summoned. Discarded pipes and incomplete roadwork in Sakha Nagar highlighted the board's negligence, leaving roads unusable for weeks.

Regarding the inspection at the BESCOM office in Co-operative Nagar, Lokayukta noted that attendance must be registered at the office. It was noted that

cash declaration transactions and movement balance transactions were not being maintained. He directed that a report be submitted immediately, and these transactions should be properly maintained from now on.

Several other loopholes were found across the three offices. —BMB

Dummy students: CBSE surprise check puts 2 city schools in radar

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) conducted a series of surprise inspections at 29 schools in Delhi, Bengaluru, Varanasi, Bihar, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh to check enrolment of 'dummy' students, officials said on Thursday.

According to CBSE Secretary Himanshu Gupta, a total of 29 teams, comprising a CBSE officer and a principal from an affiliated school, conducted the inspections. "Majority of the inspected schools were found to have violated the Board's Affiliation Bye-Laws by enrolling students beyond their actual attendance records, effectively creating 'non-attending' enrolments. Additionally, schools were found to be flouting infrastructural norms of the board," Gupta said.

"CBSE has taken these violations seriously and is in the process of issuing show-cause notices to the schools found in breach of regulations. The Board is also considering legal action against the defaulting institutions," he added.

The inspections were conducted on Wednesday and Thursday.

Eighteen of the violating schools are in the national capital, while there are three in Varanasi, two each in Bengaluru, Patna, Ahmedabad, Bilaspur, and Chhattisgarh. —PTI

Advertorial Promotional Feature

BM Food & Night Life

'Tis the season of cinnamon, nutmeg & ginger

Regardless of how you celebrate end-of-year holidays, food is probably central to your winter festivities. And a trio of spices – cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger – feature in many dishes and drinks and are an unmistakable part of the scent profile we associate with the holiday season.

As a plant scientist, I was curious to know how these spices, grown in the tropics, became so closely associated with the Northern Hemisphere's winter holidays. Just as cranberries' fall harvest makes them a natural choice for Thanksgiving, I thought that perhaps the seasonality of spice harvest had something to do with their use during the winter months. However, this doesn't appear to be the case. When it comes to growing spices, producers are playing the long game.

Growing holiday spices

Take ginger, which features in both sweet and savory recipes in many cuisines worldwide. Ginger roots take between eight and 10 months to fully mature. The plants can be harvested at any time of year if they are mature and haven't been exposed to cold or wind.

Nutmeg comes from grinding seeds of the Myristica fragrans tree, an evergreen that's native to Indonesia. The trees start flowering in their sixth year, but peak production comes when they are closer to 20 years old.

Workers harvest fruit from the trees, which typically grow to heights of 10 to 30 feet (3 to 10 meters), using long poles to knock the fruits down. For spice production, the fruits then are dried in the sun.

Nutmeg comes from grinding the inner seed kernels; its sister spice, mace, comes from grinding the tissue that envelopes the seeds. Since this plant yields two spices, the long wait for the trees to mature is worthwhile for producers.

Cinnamon is made from the bark of two trees: Cinnamomum verum for cinnamon sticks, and Cinnamomum cassia for ground cinnamon. The two types have different textures and flavor profiles, but both are made from the outermost layer of the trees' bark. Production typically starts after a tree is 2 years old. Peeling bark from cinnamon tree branches is easiest after heavy rainfalls, which soften the bark, so harvests typically happen after monsoon seasons. The same effect can be achieved outside of monsoon season by soaking branches in buckets of water.

What makes a spice 'warm'?

Cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg all are widely described as "warm" spices, which probably has less to do with where they come from and more with how they affect our bodies.

Spicing up our health and digestive systems

Ginger and nutmeg don't trick our nervous systems into feeling warm, but they both contain a myriad of compounds that aid in digestion and can fend off viral and bacterial infections. Ginger is an excellent anti-nausea agent because of a compound called gingerol, which increases gut mobility. This means food doesn't linger in the gut as long, which cuts down on gas production and keeps us from feeling bloated and sick.

—Serina DeSalvio, Texas A&M University, The Conversation.

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#57/17, **"HAJ BHAVAN"**, Thirumenahalli Village, Hegde Nagar Main Road, Bengaluru-560064 **Phone No. 080-28567673, 9448937000 E-Mail :info@karhaj.in**

Sl No.	Short Term -Tender Notification CALL-2
1	E - TENDER PROVIDING OUTSOURCE STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF KARNATAKA STATE WAKF COUNCIL & KARNATAKA STATE WAKF FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT, BENGALURU.Tender File No. KSHC/2024-25/SE0017/CALL-2
	Tender documents can be obtained from **18-12-2024 to 26-12-2024** up to 03.30 PM **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

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I, **Saraswathamma.B.M** W/O Narayanaswamy B.C, aged about 55 years, Charanthana Nilaya, 6th Cross Road, Anjani layout, Chintamani Town, Chikkaballapur District. My name in all documents is **Saraswathamma.B.M.** but in my PAN card my name is mentioned as **B.M.Saraswathamma.** Both names refer to me & Same sowrn before N.Srinivasappa, Notary & Advocate, Chinthamani Dated: 13/12/2024.

I Rehan Khalandar Khan S/O, Haroon Khan R/o Flat No 311, Sipani Jardin Apt, B Blk, 3rd Floor, Anekal Taluk, Madivala, Marasur, Bengaluru Rural, 562106, Karnataka, India have changed my name to Rehan Khalandar.

I, ASHA JOTHEESH KUMAR R/a No E-104, Jain Heights East Paradise, Vignan Nagar, Bengaluru-560037 I have chaned my name to ASHA T R. vide Affidavit dated on 19/12/2024. Sworn before Noraty Kodi Nagappaya Bengaluru.

I Balaram Suresh, residing at No.103, 2nd Block, Banashankari 6th Stage, R R Nagar, Bangalore 560098. I have changed my name to SURESH BALRAM, VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED: 17.12.2024 before notary S R THULASIKRISHNA, Bangalore

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MUDA: HC puts off Lokayukta probe report

High Court extends deadline to submit final report on site allotment case to Jan 28

The Karnataka High Court on Thursday postponed the filing of the Lokayukta police probe report in the MUDA site allotment case.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is facing allegations of illegalities in the allotment of 14 sites to his wife Parvathi B M by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA). The court's decision came amidst a plea seeking to transfer the investigation to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Senior advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Kapil Sibal, representing Siddaramaiah and the Karnataka government, informed the court of their intention to file objections to the transfer plea. Justice M Nagaprasanna, presiding over the case, had earlier issued an interim order to stay proceedings in the trial court. However, this move was met with objections from the petitioner's legal team. Addressing these concerns, the court said, "This court will not permit a district court to secure and act on the Lokayukta report while the matter is under its consideration. To safeguard the proceedings before this court, I find it appropriate to extend the deadline for filing the final report to January 28, 2025." Siddaramaiah, his wife, brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy and Devaraju -- from whom Swamy had purchased a land and gifted it to Parvathi -- and others have been named in the FIR registered by the Mysuru-located Lokayukta police establishment on September 27, following the Special (district) Court order, which had also directed for filing the investigation report by December 24.

On September 30, the ED filed a case information report (ECIR) to book the CM and others taking cognisance of the Lokayukta FIR, and is also probing the case. In the MUDA site case, it is alleged that 14 compensatory sites were allotted to Siddaramaiah's wife in an upmarket area in Mysuru (Vijayanagar Layout 3rd and 4th stages), which had higher value as compared to the location of her land acquired by MUDA. -PTI

Man nabbed trying to sell jumbo tusks; no clarity on where he got them

File photo of tusk seized

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Mysuru police, in collaboration with forest officials, apprehended a man attempting to sell elephant tusks near Bhugatagalli Gate. The tusks, concealed in a plastic bag tied to a Tamil Nadu-registered motorcycle, allegedly bore official markings used by the forest department to catalogue confiscated wildlife articles. While investigations revealed that the tusks were allegedly stolen from the secure repository at Bannerghatta National Park by a temporary forest watcher employed there, officials have denied these claims, stating that all confiscated wildlife articles remain intact.

Key accused on the run

The arrested man, identified as Nakul (30), a resident of Krishnagar district in Tamil Nadu, confessed during interrogation that he had received the tusks from his elder brother, Chinnayya. Chinnayya, the prime accused, is a temporary forest watcher there. Law enforcement officials believe Chinnayya sourced the tusks, but the exact details of their origin remain under investigation.

A police official, when asked about the allegations, stated, "The arrested accused has claimed that his brother sourced the tusks for him. However, from where exactly the tusks were taken is still unclear. We cannot comment further as the investigation is ongoing."

Officials deny theft allegations

Senior forest officials have denied allegations of theft from the repository. "As of now, these are merely speculations. Upon receiving the information, we immediately inspected the forest, and everything was found to be intact, with nothing missing. If we receive any credible information, we will certainly investigate further. However, no such incident has occurred. The very next day, everything was thoroughly checked, and all items were in their rightful place. This seems to have been done with an intention to malign and spread false narratives," said an official.

Recovered tusks raise concerns

The recovered tusks, identified as belonging to an Asiatic elephant (Elephas maximus), are significant in size and weight. One tusk measured over four feet and weighed 8.1 kilograms, while the other was 3.9 feet long and weighed 7.6 kilograms. Their distinct size and official markings add to their value, making them highly sought after in the illegal wildlife trade.

This case has highlighted serious gaps in safeguarding confiscated wildlife articles, prompting renewed calls for stricter oversight and better security protocols. In response, forest officials conducted a thorough inspection of the park's repository and confirmed that their inventory remains intact.

Family missing

Meanwhile, Chinnayya, the key accused, remains on the run. Authorities confirmed that his family has also gone missing, with no information about their whereabouts. Law enforcement agencies are intensifying efforts to locate Chinnayya and his family as investigations continue.

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I, AKASH PRASHANT NAIK, Residing at No 1D Shreyasuraksha, Sarvabhoumanagar, Bilekhalli ,Arakere BG Road Bangalore-560076, Have changed my name to AKASH, vide affidavit dated 18/12/2024 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I Sandhya Harikrishnan W/O, Sakthivel G R/o 44, Abhivrudhi Layout 1st Cross, 1st Main, Sannatamanahalli, Tc Palya, Bangalore - 560 036 have changed my name to Sandhya Sakthivel .

I, Nanjappa Manjunatha R/o No.22, Papaiah street, Doddamavalli, Basavanagudi po, Bengaluru 560004 have changed my name to Nanjappa Manjunath Affidavit Dt.19/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

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I, V.S.Sumanth S/o Late V.C.Shivaramu, residing at Venkatarayaradoddi (Post) Village, Satanur Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District, stating that, I have lost the Gift Deed of lands in Survey No.19/2, 20 and 82/16 of Choodahalli Village (Document No. 1st 6807/2018-19) while cleaning the house on 20.10.2024. I have filed a complaint (LR No. 1376375/2024) to Ramanagara Police on 10.12.2024 in this regard. If anyone finds the said document, please contact the above address or Mobile Number 9900663826.

I, Ramachandraiah R/a Doddakukkanahalli, Madhure Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural 561203. I have lost my Hakkupatra No RHS13/93-94 6/8/93. in the place of Doddakukkanahalli. Lost Report No:1388881/2024. if anybody found please submit nearby police station or aforementioned Adress.

I, Madhusudana C (Madhusudana Channappa) R/o 19/10, Sri Kamadhenu Nilaya, 3rd block, 8th cross Nandini layout, Bengaluru 560096 have changed my name to Madhusudhan Affidavit Dt.19/12/2024 notary Harisha.G, B'luru

I, Richa Vora W/o, Jayant Ramani R/o 117, Mico Layout, 4th Main, 2nd Cross, J.C.Nagar, Mahalaxmipuram, Bangalore - 560086 have changed my name to Richa Ramani for all purposes.

I, SARASWATI BIREDDY, W/O Tirupathireddy Bireddy, Residing at 1-17, Boyamadugula, CS PURAM MDL, Prakasam DT, AndhraPradesh - 523112, have changed my name to VENKATASUBBAMMA BIREDDY for all purposes permanently.

I, Vinay G R/o No.393, 7th cross, 12th main, Raghavendra Block, Srinagara Bengaluru 560050 have changed my name to Vinay Gangadhara Affidavit Dt.19/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, ARUN S/o Ashok Prabhu R/o 107B Berolli, Post Nagare,Taluk Honnavar, Uttara Kannada- 581335.I have changed my name to ARUN PRABHU vide affidavit dated: 18/12/2024 Before Notary B M Chandrashekar Bangalore.

I, Naveen G R/o No.393, 7th cross, 12th main, Raghavendra Block, Srinagara, Bengaluru 560050 have changed my name to Naveen Gangadhara Affidavit Dt.19/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Basavaraj S/o Shivaputrappa Pavate R/O No -205, Skandashree 6 Apts, SLV Layout, Nayandahalli, Mysore road, Bangalore 560039 have changed my name to Basavaraj Pavate for all purposes.

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New BMTC route brings joy in Lingarajapuram

Citizens of Lingarajapuram and surrounding areas heaved a sigh of relief as finally a bus service they have been demanding for long was made operational on Thursday.

The citizens gave the credit to Sarvagnanagar MLA and Minister for Energy KJ George for listening to their plea and starting the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) services, to commence from KHB Quarters, Lingarajapuram to Shivajinagar and to Majestic Bus stations. The service will also run from Shivajinagar and Majestic to KHB Quarters, Lingarajapuram.

Some credit also goes to members of Bengaluru Eshanya Mahavedike (a federation of combined 28+ RWAs) and the Resident Welfare Associations of Lingarajapuram, who kept following up to make this bus service start its journey. —BMB

'City can use treated water in construction industry'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reuse of treated water is occurring in lake revival/ rejuvenation, accounting for 67%, followed by irrigation and industrial purposes.

Embrace water reuse

As per the urban wastewater reuse policy of 2017, 10 major cities in the state were expected to prepare plans and embrace wastewater reuse by 2020 and extend this to 100% for all major cities/ towns by 2030. The policy also targets 20% reuse of treated sewage to be increased to 50% by 2030. However, the report underscores the lack of a clear action plan or timeline at the state level to achieve these targets.

In Bengaluru, around 63% of total wastewater is treated by 34 centralised treatment plants with a collective capacity of 1,348.5 MLD, and 13% is treated by decentralised treatment plants.

Unexplored area

The report says while the city has a high potential for reusing treated water in the construction industry, it is still an unexplored area. However, for optimal advantage, there is a critical need to boost treatment facilities to process all the wastewater being generated in the city.

Currently, treated water from Bengaluru is provided to Kolar, Chikkaballapura, and Bangalore Rural districts, and is managed by the Minor Irrigation Department. In addition to these projects, several decentralised initiatives supply treated water to various industries. For instance, 40 MLD tertiary treatment plants (TTP) in Devanahalli supply treated water to the KIADB Industrial Area, 10 MLD TTP in Yelahanka provide tertiary treated water to KIAL, IAF, BEL, Rail Wheel Factory, and ITC, 4 MLD TTP in Cubbon Park supplies tertiary treated water to Raj Bhavan, Vidhana Soudha, High Court, Golf Course, and Cubbon Park, 1.5 MLD TTP in Lal Bagh supplies tertiary treated water to Lal Bagh, and 15 MLD TTP in Jakkur supplies tertiary treated water to the KPCL gas-based power plant in Yelahanka.

However, the current wastewater reuse even in Bengaluru accounts for only 43%, indicating a significant potential for scaling up wastewater treatment infrastructure. Most of the reuse happening is for lake revival to recharge shallow aquifers, which can be ultimately used for agriculture or domestic water supply.

> **There is a need for developing a groundwater monitoring unit in BWSSB to measure the quantity and quality of groundwater near the lake vicinity to understand the impact of lake revival and recharge** –From the report

"There is a need for developing a groundwater monitoring unit in BWSSB to measure the quantity and quality of groundwater near the lake vicinity to understand the impact of lake revival and recharge. Also, there should be a dedicated wastewater management cell to oversee and supervise all the planning and execution of the reuse of treated wastewater," noted the report.

Allegation of abuse against CT Ravi

BJP MLC CT Ravi was taken into police custody after an FIR was registered against him, for allegedly using a derogatory word against Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar in the Legislative Council on Thursday, police said.

He was taken into the police van from the premises of Suvarna Vidhana Soudha.

Based on the complaint filed by the Minister, a case has been registered against Ravi under sections 75 (sexual harassment) and 79 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, a senior police officer said.

While Ravi on his part has denied the allegations as "false", Congress leaders said Hebbalkar has complained to the Legislative Council Chairman.

According to Congress leaders, Ravi used the word several times against Hebbalkar during an altercation, after the House was adjourned by Chairman Basavaraj Horatti, following an uproar over Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on BR Ambedkar. —PTI

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Wicked!— Sundance Film Festival gala to honour 'Wicked' star Cynthia Erivo with Visionary award

WHAT IS LOVE?

From Rashmika's point of view, it is this...

Rashmika Mandanna recently spoke about her 'partner' emphasising the importance of having them in every phase of her life. While she didn't name anyone, her comments came amid ongoing dating rumours with Vijay Deverakonda.

She also shared her thoughts on love and the qualities she values in a partner. In an interview with Cosmopolitan India, Rashmika shared that her partner brings her comfort and support during tough times, providing her with security and empathy. She emphasised that kindness and respect are crucial in a relationship. According to her, mutual respect, care, and responsibility are key, along with qualities like empathy, love, and genuineness. She mentioned that she values these traits in her partner and believes that if they don't share similar values, they may not get along.

Rashmika further explained that for her, being in love means having a strong partnership and companionship. She believes that love involves having someone by your side to experience both the good and bad times, someone who will stand with you and celebrate life together.

Last month, Vijay confirmed he is in a relationship with a co-star and revealed he is not single. When asked about his relationship status, he humorously responded, saying, "I am 35 years old; you think I will be single?" He also admitted to having dated a co-star in the past.

Vijay Deverakonda and Rashmika Mandanna have previously collaborated in the films Geetha Govindam (2018) and Dear Comrade (2019). Recently, Vijay launched the teaser for Rashmika's upcoming film The Girlfriend, which also includes a voice-over by him.

— ETimes

DANCE TO THE TUNE

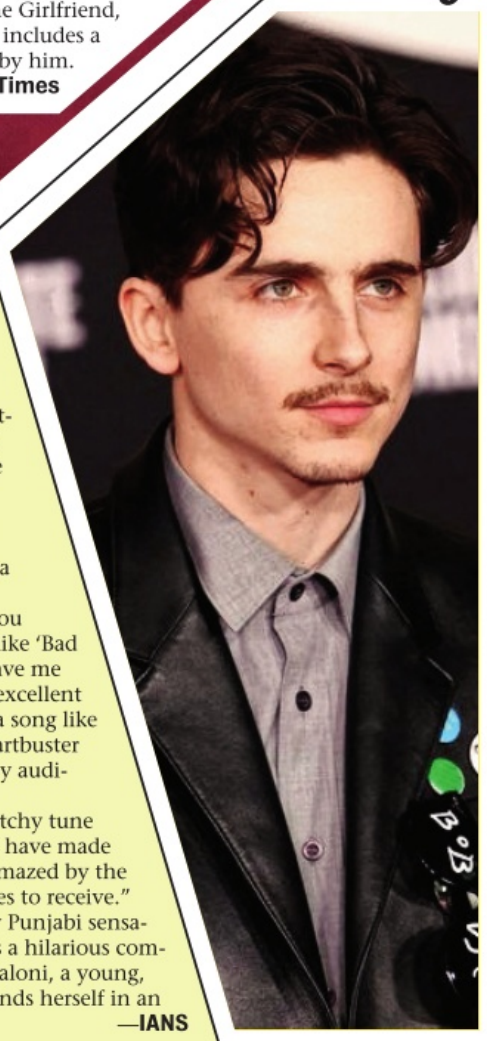
As "Bad Newz" is all set for a television premiere, Bollywood heartthrob Vicky Kaushal credits the film for giving a massive chartbuster like "Tauba Tauba". He says the song's catchy tune and energetic choreography have made it a favourite.

"It's not every day that you come across a unique story like 'Bad Newz'. This film not only gave me the chance to be part of an excellent entertainer, it also gave me a song like 'Tauba Tauba', a massive chartbuster that continues to be loved by audiences," Vicky said.

He added: "The song's catchy tune and energetic choreography have made it a favourite, and I'm still amazed by the positive response it continues to receive."

"Tauba Tauba" is sung by Punjabi sensation Karan Aujla. The film is a hilarious comedy that follows the life of Saloni, a young, independent woman who finds herself in an extraordinary situation.

—IANS



In young Dylan's shoes

Timothee Chalamet likened his journey to playing music legend Bob Dylan to an athletic feat. It turned into a marathon that stretched longer than the actor had expected. Chalamet signed up to play Dylan in 2019. Then came a global pandemic and labor strikes in Hollywood, forcing two extended delays to filming.

"A Complete Unknown," the movie about Dylan's quick rise to stardom in the early 1960s, will finally be released in theaters on Wednesday, Christmas Day, by Walt Disney's Searchlight Pictures.

The disruptions gave the "Dune" actor more time to work out how to translate the towering figure to the big screen. Chalamet learned to play guitar and harmonica and worked with a vocal coach to evolve from his smooth "Wonka" singing to Dylan's distinctive, nasal voice.

"It was the most I've ever taken on," Chalamet said in an interview, comparing the preparation to "the climbing of a steep hill."

"A Complete Unknown" chronicles Dylan's arrival in New York in 1961 at age 19, his rapid ascent in folk music circles with songs such as "Blowin' in the Wind," and his divisive turn to electric rock music in 1965. Chalamet said he immersed himself in whatever video he could find of Dylan in the early '60s, a time of political and social upheaval in the US.

—Reuters

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Get entertained

The team of Unlock Raghava is working hard to release the film on February 7. Milind, who shared the screen with veteran actor Ananth Nag in Week End, plays the protagonist in Unlock Raghava that has created a buzz among movie goers from the day it went on floors. Love Mocktail 2 fame Rachel David is the female lead.

The movie is bankrolled by Manjunath Dasegowda and Girish Kumar while Deepak Maduvanahalli is the director. Script and screenplay are by Satya Prakash.

"Milind is not only a handsome boy but also a good actor. This is an out and out commercial movie. I am confident that audiences will leave the theater satisfied. Its songs have already become popular," said Maduvanahalli. Milind said the script written by director Satya Prakash has all the elements required to launch a new hero.

Different avatar

Fans of Thriller Manju who have watched him play small character roles, will be pleased to know that he is set to play the villain in Mugila Mallige. The actor, who is referred to as Indian Jackie Chan by his fans and well-wishers, got the rule as a matter of chance. RK Gandhi, director of the film, reveals how.

"I wanted another actor to play the villain and we had paid an advance to that actor but he could not come for the shoots as he was busy with another movie. Initially, Thriller Manju was supposed to work as a stunt master but I approached him to play the villain and he agreed. The villain – Muthathi Devaraj -- is a unique character," said director Gandhi.

The director said the movie was shot in Hoskote, Gattinabbe, Poojena Agrahara, and Bhaktharahalli, "We completed the talkie portion and action scenes in 11 days. The movie has three songs, which will be shot in a week," the director said.

The movie is bankrolled by Nagaraj Reddy under the ANR Pictures banner. Sanath, known for Kamarottu Checkpost, is playing the lead while Sahana Chandrasekhar is the female lead.

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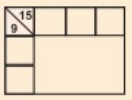
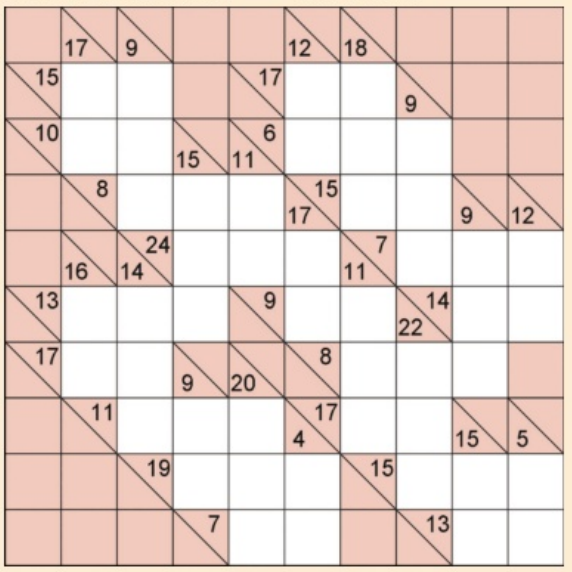
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

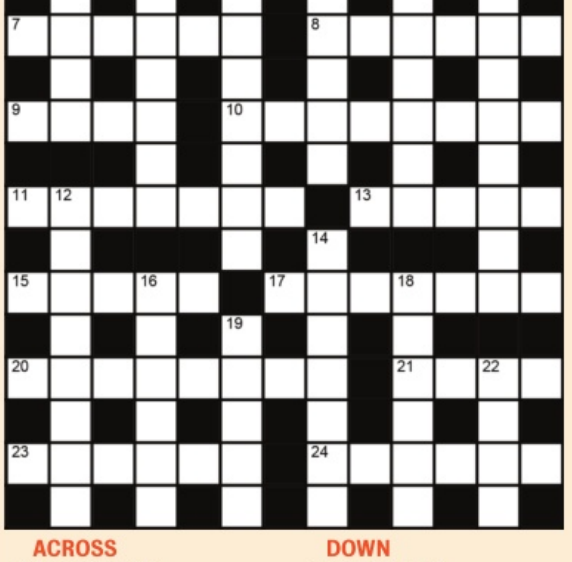


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Reprimand (6)
8 Cavort (6)
9 Cooped up (4)
10 Long-suffering (8)
11 Spoke indistinctly (7)
13 Moneylending (5)
15 Akbar's grandfather (5)
17 A speech (7)
20 Refrain from interfering with (3,5)
21 Multiplex at Garuda Mall (4)
23 Wooer (6)
24 On/off switch (6)

DOWN

1 Apportion (4)
2 ___ up : flatter (6)
3 Plume (7)
4 Overflowed (5)
5 Marine mammal (6)
6 Dramatic outline (8)
12 Omit or ignore (5,3)
14 Brutality (7)
16 Expects (6)
18 Sharp, darting pain (6)
19 Apologetic (5)
22 Greasy (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: N EQUALS T

SPKMXQNL QO NFS OIKX IY XQUSENL; NFSES QO, QW YMJN, WI XQUSENL AQNFIKN QN.

Linemaro

You are pretty sober. But you're prettier drunk

Mindchow

The absent are never without fault; nor the present without excuse

Joke of the day

It's crazy how sexist the postal service is. I guess that's natural in a mail dominated industry.

Loop

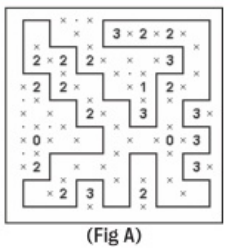
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

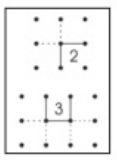
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

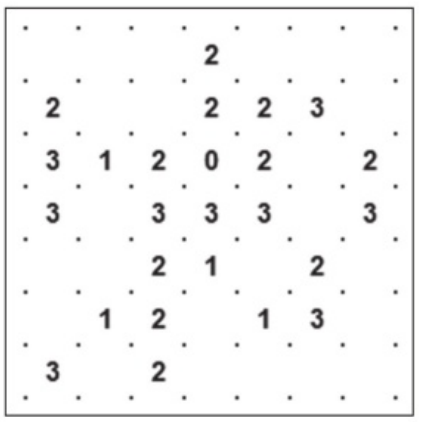
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



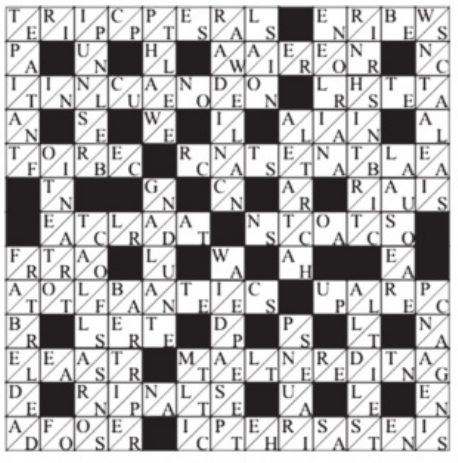
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



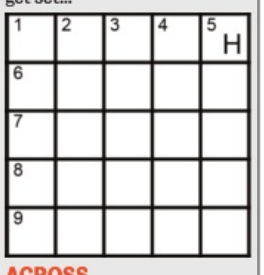
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

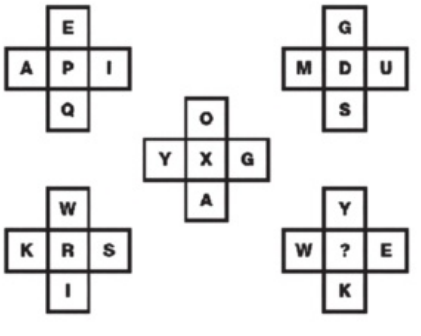
1 Her PC; 6 Are ZU;
7 Dines; 8 I pent;
9 Scree

DOWN

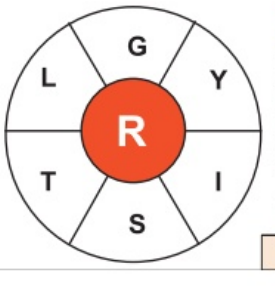
1 In Cap; 2 In Zee (1-4);
3 Durer; 4 Creep;
5 Seth's

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

4				3				8
		1	7		8	6		
	3	2				9	7	
2			1	6	9			7
9			5	2	3			1
	1	8				4	2	
		9	4		7	5		
6				9				3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 11

1 3 5 8

Medium = 17

1 2 7 8

Hard = 32

3 9 9 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

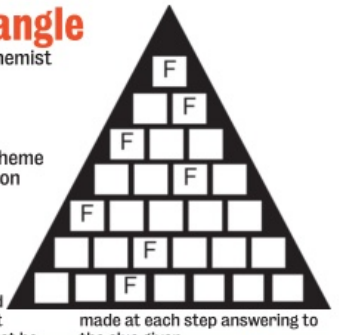
Differences: 1. Wheel is moved. 2. Dog's leg is moved. 3. Hat is different. 4. Fence is not as long. 5. Window is different. 6. House is not as wide.

Riddler

Can you decipher this common phrase: PICT RES

Alpha triangle

1 Fluorine for the chemist
2 Despite being
3 Evergreen tree
4 Teeming
5 Cooked in oil
6 Improvised on a theme
7 Has another opinion

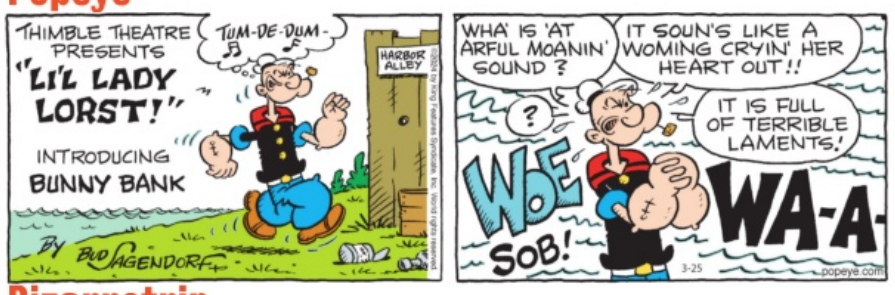


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye



Bizarrotrip

Wayno & Piraro 9-14-24
Safety instructors have some leeway with their uniforms, but pants and a hat are mandatory.
SMOKEY, BARE
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM
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Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WHERE ARE YOUR CLOTHES FROM?
THE FLANNEL IS A HAND-ME-DOWN FROM SHARI.
HEY! MY PANTS USED TO BE CELESTE'S!
LITTLE SISTER LEFTOVERS.
HART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
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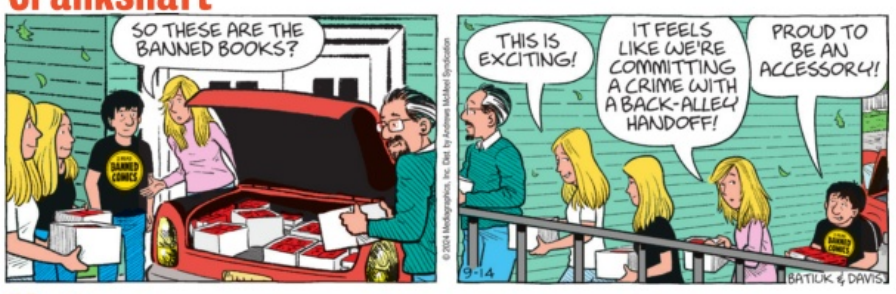
Crankshaft


SO THESE ARE THE BANNED BOOKS?
THIS IS EXCITING!
IT FEELS LIKE WE'RE COMMITTING A CRIME WITH A BACK-ALLEY HANDOFF!
PROUD TO BE AN ACCESSORY!
BANNED COMICS
9-14
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be busy with family gatherings and social events. Your polite demeanour could enhance your prestige among those around you. You might spend money on artefacts or household items that elevate your social status. Some good news from a relative is likely.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are happy and blessed by the moon. Your health may improve, reflecting positively on your productivity. You are likely to perform well in various aspects of life, boosting your prestige. With strong focus and determination, you may make challenging decisions that lead to business growth.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your energy may feel depleted, and an old ailment could resurface, leaving you upset. It's advised to avoid adventure tours and rash driving. Steer clear of litigation and settle disputes outside of court. Avoid engaging in arguments over trivial matters. You might also plan for an overseas trip.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may start your day feeling happy. At work, quick decision-making may enhance your management skills and yield future benefits. A new source of income could increase your savings. Collaborating with your business partner on investments might bring success. Improved bonding with your spouse will likely create harmony in your domestic life.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, work commitments might leave you tired and unable to spend much time with your family. However, you could establish overseas connections. Exercise caution with investments. Those in jobs may receive promotions.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, things are under control. Your destiny may favour you, bringing gains in business. Rewards for your hard work are likely. It's a good time to restart postponed projects. You might plan a peaceful religious journey or donate to a charitable or religious cause.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, the moon's unfavourable position may cause health issues or financial losses in business and investments. Avoid putting money into ventures, as gains may turn into losses. Steer clear of controversies to prevent negative consequences.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, the moon blesses you, and good news regarding your profession is expected. Joyful moments may prevail in your domestic life. Avoid unnecessary arguments, and be patient with over-excitement. Investments in real estate could be profitable. Students may find themselves focused on their studies.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and love may fill your personal life. Singles might find a suitable match. Professional life looks promising, with support from friends and subordinates. Investments in gems and jewellery are likely to yield gains. However, pay attention to the health of elders.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, happiness surrounds you, and you may feel energised, enhancing your prestige among those around you. Time spent studying intellectual material or pursuing higher education could benefit your career. Students might receive good news about competitive exams.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today may start on a dull note, but as the evening approaches, you may overcome negativity. New connections at work could help you revamp business plans. Be cautious and read documents carefully before signing anything.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, blessings may help you overcome indecisiveness. Your children's health may improve. Supportive colleagues might contribute to your project's success, possibly earning you incentives. Those working in dairy, water projects, grains, homemaking, art, or culture could excel.

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$=\sqrt{[20+2!2]}$
$=\sqrt{2^8}$
$=2^{8\div2}$
$=16$

QUOTE UNCODE
equality is the soul of liberty; there is, in fact, no liberty without it.

STRIKE OUT

T	R	I	P	P	E	R	S	N	I	B	S			
A	N		H		A	A	R	O	N		C			
I	N	N	U	E	N	D	O	R	H	E	A			
	E		W		I		L	I	I		L			
T	I	R	E		R	A	T	E	A	B	L	E		
	N		G		N		A		I		A	S		
E	C	L	A	T		S	C	O	T	S				
F	R	O		U	W		H		E					
A	T	L	A	N	T	I	C	P	A	R	C			
B		L	E	T		D	P		T		A			
	E		A	R	M	E	T	E	R	I	N	G		
L		R	I	A	L	S		A		L		E		
E		R		L		A		R		O		N		
D	O	S	E		I	T	E	R	A	T	E	S		

FAST FIVE

C	E	R	E	S
I	N	E	P	T
N	I	D	E	S
A	Z	U	R	E
P	E	R	C	H

BULL'S EYE girl, girl, girly, girlst, GRISTLY, girtl, stir

RIDDLER You ought to be in pictures.

QUICK

M	B	F		S	W		S							
R	E	B	U	K	E		P	R	A	N	C	E		
S	U	I	T	O	R		T	O	G	G	L	E		
		O		I		N								
L	E	T	A	L	O	N	E		I	N	O	X		
		V		W		S		U		W				
B	A	B	A	R		O	R	A	T	I	O	N		
		E			C		R			I				
S	L	U	R	R	E	D		U	S	U	R	Y		
		E		H		T		U		A				
P	E	N	T		T	O	L	E	R	A	N	T		
		T		A		I		L		E				
R	E	B	U	K	E		P	R	A	N	C	E		
S		Y		E		Y		S		W		S		

MENSA PUZZLE
F. Two sequences are used in these five grids, both only using the lines containing three letters. Firstly, move along the horizontal lines from top left to bottom right in steps of four; starting with the A. Secondly, move down the vertical lines in steps of six, starting with the E. Whenever two numbers cross add the numerical values together and put the solution in the middle of each cross.

SUDOKU

6	5	4	9	2	1	7	8	3
3	2	9	4	8	7	5	1	6
7	1	8	3	5	6	4	2	9
9	4	7	5	2	3	8	6	1
1	6	3	8	7	4	2	9	5
2	8	5	1	6	9	3	4	7
8	3	2	6	1	5	9	7	4
5	9	1	7	4	8	6	3	2
4	7	6	9	3	2	1	5	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
F, if, Fin, Rife, Fried, Riffed, Differs.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 − 3 + 1 + 5 = 11
Medium
2 + 7 x 1 + 8 = 17
Hard
3 x 9 + 9 − 4 = 32

LOOP

KAKURO

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